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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRAPS RECEDENCE OF CLAPTO 29 SEP 2006

Application of: RICHTER et al. Confirmation No.: TBA

Serial No.: TBA Art Unit: TBA

Filed: Herewith Examiner: TBA

For: EXTERNAL FIXATOR FOR Attorney Docket No.: 8932-1323-999

OSTEOSYNTHESIS OR BONE

GAP MANIPULATION

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Mail Stop PCT Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Please enter the following preliminary amendment and remarks into the file of the above-identified patent application.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims beginning on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 7 of this paper.

Appendix A includes a clean copy of a substitute specification to replace the originally-filed specification in this matter, and is attached following page 7 of this paper.

Appendix B includes a marked-up copy of the substitute specification showing all additions and deletions to the originally-filed specification, and is attached following Appendix A.